

Message Text

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64

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 JUSE-00 L-02 NSAE-00 SCA-01 PA-02

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P 252226Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 451

UNCLAS QUEBEC 0043

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EWWT

SUBJECT: UNAUTHORIZED DEPARTURE OF CARGO SHIP OPEN QUOTES

ANSWER CLOSE QUOTES FROM QUEBEC.

1. MONTREAL GAZETTE, FEB. 25 REPORTS CARGO SHIP OPEN QUOTES ANSWER CLOSE QUOTES LEFT QUEBEC CITY FEB. 23 WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION AND HAD BEEN SPOTTED STOPPED IN ICE IN ST. LAWRENCE OFF GODBOUT, QUEBEC. OWNERSHIP OF OPEN QUOTES ANSWER CLOSE QUOTES FORMERLY CALLED OPEN QUOTES ATLANTIC CLOSE QUOTES REPORTED IN DISPUTE. SHIP 349 FEET IN LENGTH, 2000 TONS SAID TO HAVE LEFT HARBOR WITHOUT PERMISSION OF PORT AUTHORITIES, PROPER NAVIGATIONAL AIDS OR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PAPERS AND UNDERSTOOD TO BE HEADING FOR BOSTON WHERE CAPTAIN BRIAN ERB HAS SALVAGE BUSINESS.

2. QUEBEC LE SOLEIL FEB. 25 REPORTS THAT FEDERAL JUDGE IN MONTREAL HAS TOLD COAST GUARD AND TRANSPORT MINISTRY TO INTERCEPT SHIP WHICH SOLEIL SAYS IS EN ROUTE TO BAHAMAS, (FREEPORT), VIA BOSTON. SOLEIL ALSO CLAIMS SHIP IS ARMED AND WILL RESIST COAST GUARD. DESCRIBES CREW AS EIGHT WOMEN AND TWELVE MEN AND REPORTS IT HAS NO TROUBLE WITH ICE. SOLEIL SUGGESTS THAT IF COAST GUARD INTERVENES IT WILL DO SO OFF ANTICOSTI OR NEAR HALIFAX. IN 1968 OR 1969 SHIP THEN CALLED OPEN QUOTES CLARA-CLAUSEN CLOSE QUOTES OF SWEDISH REGISTRY GROUNDED IN ST. LAWRENCE ACCORDING TO LE SOLEIL AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ACQUIRED BY ERB.

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EM COMMENT: QUEBEC PORT AUTHORITIES TELL US SHIP - REGIS-

TERED IN PANAMA - IS BELIEVED HEADED FOR BOSTON.
IT PASSED BELOW ISLAND OF ANTICOSTI AT 1600 QUEBEC TIME, FEB.
25,. CAPTAIN ERB IS A CANADIAN CITIZEN BUT THE OWNER IS FROM
BOSTON - HENCE THAT DESTINATION.
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